

March 19, 2002

TO: Members of the MAG High Capacity Transit Working Group

FROM: Dawn M. Coomer, Multi-Modal Program Manager

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION

Thursday, March 28, 2002 – 1:30 p.m.
MAG Offices, Suite 200 - Cholla Room
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

Member agencies and stakeholders are invited to attend the second meeting of the High Capacity Transit Working Group. An agenda for the meeting is included for your information. The Working Group is assisting in the development of the MAG High Capacity Transit Plan by providing input and reviewing key deliverables of the project. IBI Group, consultant to MAG for this project, has recently completed a working paper for Milestone 1. The paper presents a refined scope of work for the project and a proposed public and agency involvement plan, and reviews prior studies and high capacity transit technologies. The completed working paper is available from the transportation page of the MAG Web site at www.mag.maricopa.gov. Any comments on the working paper should be submitted to me at the MAG office.

The MAG High Capacity Transit Plan is addressing the feasibility of commuter rail along existing rail corridors, estimating the costs and benefits of this service, and assessing how it would interact with other transit and roadway modes. The study will also identify other high capacity alternatives for existing rail corridors where commuter rail is not feasible, and identify new potential high capacity transit corridors. The planning efforts for the High Capacity Transit Plan will be integrated with the development of the Regional Transportation Plan.

We hope that you or your designated representative will attend this meeting. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please call me or Eric Anderson at (602) 254-6300. E-mail can be sent to dcoomer@mag.maricopa.gov.

c: MAG Management Committee
MAG Transportation Review Committee
Valley Metro Operations Staff
Central Phoenix/East Valley Light Rail Transit Project Agency Oversight Team
Intergovernmental Coordinators
Eric Anderson, MAG

AGENDA
MAG HIGH CAPACITY TRANSIT WORKING GROUP
March 28, 2002

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Meeting attendees, MAG staff and the IBI Group will be introduced.
2. **Project Milestones and Schedule.** The consultant team will provide a brief review of the project milestones and schedule, and provide a general status report of the project.
3. **Review of Issues and Needs.** A kick-off meeting for the High Capacity Transit Plan was held in January. Participants were asked to identify major concerns and issues that the study should address. A summary of the issues will be provided by the consultant team.

In addition, as part of the public and agency involvement plan, the consultant team is conducting one-on-one meetings with stakeholders. Stakeholders are being asked to identify commuter transportation needs, advantages and disadvantages of different types of high capacity transit services and other key issues, concerns and opportunities. At the meeting, the consultant team will summarize major messages and guiding principles gleaned from the one-on-one meetings with project stakeholders.

4. **Initial Findings of Peer Review.** As part of task 4, identify and refine thresholds for commuter rail and other high capacity transit operations, the consultant team is conducting a peer review to determine threshold values for key factors in successful high-capacity systems throughout North America. The consultant team will summarize their approach to this task and present initial findings on the commuter rail, light rail and bus rapid transit systems being addressed in the peer review.
5. **General Comments and Questions.**